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Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

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Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is mandated by General Assembly resolution 68/90 and is a compilation of replies from Member States related to scholarships and training facilities made available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

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I. Introduction

1. By General Assembly resolution 845 (IX), Member States were invited to extend to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories offers of facilities not only for study and training of university standard but also for study at the post-primary level, as well as technical and vocational training of immediate practical value.

2. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 1696 (XVI), offers extended under resolution 845 (IX) are communicated by the Secretariat to the administering Powers to enable them to give appropriate publicity to the offers in the Territories under their administration.

3. Information on scholarships offered by Member States under the programme is made available to prospective applicants. Reference to the programme has been included in successive editions of the guide entitled *Study Abroad*, published by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

4. Under the terms of resolution 845 (IX) and subsequent resolutions, the most recent of which is resolution 68/90, the Secretary-General submits to the General Assembly each year a report containing detailed information on the offers made and the extent to which they were utilized.[1] The present report, which covers the period from 18 March 2013 to 5 March 2014, is submitted in accordance with paragraph 5 of resolution 68/90.

II. Scholarship offers and awards

A. Offering States

5. Over the years, the 61 States Members of the United Nations listed below have offered to make scholarships available for the use of inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories in response to the relevant General Assembly resolutions:

Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Egypt, Finland, Gabon, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Libya, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

6. One non-member State, the Holy See, has also offered scholarships.

[1] The most recent report is contained in document A/68/66.

B. Offers and awards

Member States

Argentina

7. In a note verbale dated 20 February 2014, the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations requested that the following paragraphs be included in the present report:

> The United Nations General Assembly, in its resolution 2065 (XX) and in subsequent resolutions, and the Special Committee on decolonization have described the question of the Malvinas Islands as a special and particular colonial situation as it involves a sovereignty dispute between the Argentine Republic and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, have established that the way to put an end to the sovereignty dispute is the peaceful and negotiated solution of the sovereignty dispute and have requested both Governments to continue without delay the bilateral negotiations recommended by the General Assembly and the Special Committee.
>
> Despite the illegal British occupation, because the Malvinas Islands, South Georgia Islands and South Sandwich Islands are part of the Argentine national territory, their inhabitants have equality of access with the rest of the Argentine population to the Argentine public education system. This includes free education at the primary, secondary and tertiary/university levels, as well as the benefits of the national scholarship programme offered by the Ministry of Education of the Argentine Republic.

Australia

8. In a letter dated 19 February 2014, the Permanent Mission of Australia to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

> Through the Australia Awards Scholarships and during the term 2007-2014, Australia provided 25 scholarships to French Polynesia, 37 to New Caledonia and 14 to Tokelau.
>
> Australia Awards Scholarships are long-term development awards administered by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. They aim to contribute to the long-term development needs of Australia's partner countries, in line with bilateral and regional agreements. They provide opportunities for people from developing countries to undertake full-time undergraduate or postgraduate study at participating Australian universities and Technical and Further Education institutions. The study and research opportunities provided by Australia Awards Scholarships develop skills and knowledge of individuals to drive change and contribute to the development outcomes of their own country.

Austria

9. In a note dated 14 February 2014, the Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations informed the Secretariat that, currently, inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories may apply for the following programmes:

Ernst Mach Grant (worldwide)

- Target groups:
  - Postgraduates pursuing a doctoral/PhD programme outside Austria wishing to do part of their research in Austria
  - Postgraduates or postdoctoral candidates pursuing research in Austria
- Duration: 1-9 months
- Monthly grant rate: 940-1,040 euros
- Closing date for applications: 1 March 2015
- Funded by the Federal Ministry of Science and Research

Ernst Mach Grant for studying at an Austrian university of applied sciences

- Target groups:
  - Undergraduate students
  - Graduates who have successfully completed at least four semesters of studies under a bachelor/diploma programme at a university in their home country at the time of taking up the grant
- Duration: 4-10 months
- Monthly grant rate: 940 euros
- Closing date for applications: 1 March 2015
- Funded by the Federal Ministry of Science and Research

Franz Werfel Grant for young university teachers of the German language

- Target group: young university teachers of the German language and Austrian literature
- Duration: 4-9 months (with possibility of extension)
- Monthly grant rate: 1,040 euros
- Closing date for applications: 1 March 2015
- Funded by the Federal Ministry of Science and Research

Richard Plaschka Grant

- Target group: university lecturers in the field of history who are primarily occupied with Austria-related topics
- Duration: 4-9 months (with possibility of extension)
- Monthly grant rate: 1,040 euros
- Closing date for applications: 1 March 2015
- Funded by the Federal Ministry of Science and Research

India

10. In a note verbale dated 13 February 2014, the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

> The Government of India, under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme, offers training facilities to the people of Anguilla, Bermuda, the Cayman Islands, Montserrat and the Turks and Caicos Islands. The training slots offered during 2013-2014 are:
>
> Anguilla: 1
>
> Bermuda: 5
>
> Cayman Islands: 2
>
> Montserrat: 4
>
> Turks and Caicos Islands: 2

New Zealand

11. In a note verbale dated 20 February 2014, the Permanent Mission of New Zealand to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

> The Government of New Zealand provides budget support to the Government of Tokelau to provide and administer scholarships, in an effort to enhance both the scholarship holders' course completion rates and the proportion who return to live in Tokelau following the completion of their studies. Tokelau has a focus on undergraduate tertiary education, and is currently providing scholarships for 23 undergraduate students at tertiary education institutions in Fiji, Vanuatu and New Zealand.
>
> As New Zealand citizens, Tokelauans are also eligible for a range of domestic scholarships as well as Government-subsidized access to New Zealand educational facilities.

Saudi Arabia

12. In a note verbale dated 26 February 2014, the Permanent Mission of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations conveyed the following response from the Saudi Government:

> Saudi Arabia welcomes students from the territories listed in your letter at Saudi universities who have high grades in all fields except health, and reserves five seats for each country listed in your letter.

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

13. In a note dated 14 February 2014, the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations informed the Secretariat of the following:

> The Foreign and Commonwealth Office awards two Chevening Scholarships to students from the United Kingdom's Overseas Territories each year. This scholarship programme provides full or partial funding for full-time courses at the postgraduate level, normally a one-year Master's degree.

III. Applications made through the United Nations

14. In accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolution 1696 (XVI), applications for scholarships received by the United Nations Secretariat from inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories are transmitted simultaneously to the offering States for consideration and to the administering Powers for information.

15. From 18 March 2013 to 5 March 2014, no requests for information on the availability of scholarships were received by the Secretariat.

IV. Conclusion

16. Scholarships and training facilities offered by Member States to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories represent a valuable contribution to their educational advancement.